

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 11, 2020

Mr. Bob Chapek
Chief Executive Officer
The Walt Disney Company
500 South Buena Vista Street
Burbank, CA 91521-4873

Dear Mr. Chapek:

We are writing to inquire about The Walt Disney Company's cooperation with elements of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region's (XUAR) security and propaganda authorities in the production of *Mulan*. Disney's apparent cooperation with officials of the People's Republic of China (PRC) who are most responsible for committing atrocities—or for covering up those crimes—is profoundly disturbing.

The closing credits of *Mulan* extend thanks to the “Turpan Municipal Bureau of Public Security” and the “Publicity Department of CPC Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region Committee” as well as other local level XUAR propaganda elements. In October 2019, the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security added the Turpan Municipal Bureau of Public Security to its Entity List for “human rights violations and abuses in the implementation of China's campaign of repression, mass arbitrary detention, and high-technology surveillance against Uyghurs, Kazakhs, and other members of Muslim minority groups in the XUAR.” The XUAR Publicity (or Propaganda) Department—which is an arm of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP)—has denied, distorted, and otherwise covered up these crimes against humanity that also include forced labor and a campaign of mass sterilization, forced abortions, and birth suppression against Uyghurs.

Publicly available information prior to the filming of *Mulan* showed the existence of mass internment camps for the detention of Uyghurs. By July 1, 2018, major news outlets in the United States, Australia, United Kingdom, and Hong Kong all had reported that Beijing had interned hundreds of thousands, if not more than one million, Uyghurs and minorities in the XUAR. The decision to film parts of *Mulan* in the XUAR, in cooperation with local security and propaganda elements, offers tacit legitimacy to these perpetrators of crimes that may warrant the designation of genocide.

As such, we request the following information.

- (1) Please describe, in detail, The Walt Disney Company's cooperation with the “Publicity Department of CPC Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region Committee” and the “Turpan Municipal Bureau of Public Security” as well as any other cooperation involving official PRC and CCP entities in the XUAR during the filming of *Mulan*.

- (2) Please describe the contractual requirements made by or requests made of The Walt Disney Company related to the naming of the “Publicity Department of CPC Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region Committee,” the “Turpan Municipal Bureau of Public Security”, and any other PRC or CCP entity in the *Mulan* credits.
- (3) Please describe the extent to which officers and senior executives of The Walt Disney Company were aware of reports contemporaneous with the filming of *Mulan* that the PRC and CCP were carrying out a campaign of mass surveillance and detention against Uyghurs and other Muslim minorities in the XUAR. If they were not aware, how will The Walt Disney Company ensure their officers and executives are made aware of publicly reported mass surveillance and detentions in the future?
- (4) Please describe the extent to which film and production teams were aware of mass surveillance and detention of Uyghurs and other Muslim minorities in the XUAR while they were researching and filming the location? Please describe the reasoning that led The Walt Disney Company to go ahead with the filming of *Mulan* in light of these widely available and credible reports of the PRC and CCP’s egregious human rights abuses in the XUAR, and whether filming within the XUAR was related to ensuring access to the PRC market.
- (5) Please describe The Walt Disney Company’s use of local labor while filming in the XUAR, including any cooperation with the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps and use of Uyghur or other ethnic minority labor, as well as any due diligence performed to ensure that no forced labor was used during the film’s production in the XUAR.
- (6) Please identify The Walt Disney Company’s units and subsidiaries that performed the aforementioned due diligence and any company that they contracted to perform such due diligence.
- (7) Please describe the role of PRC-based officers and executives of The Walt Disney Company or its subsidiary, The Walt Disney Company (China) Limited, in the decision-making related to filming *Mulan* in the XUAR.
- (8) Please confirm whether The Walt Disney Company or its subsidiaries involved in the filming of *Mulan* were required by PRC or CCP authorities to establish a communist party committee or branch for its Chinese employees, and, if so, whether that committee or branch played a role in the company’s decision to film in Xinjiang.
- (9) Does The Walt Disney Company have a policy about cooperating with entities that are known human rights abusers? If so, please share it. If not, please explain why not.
- (10) Please identify regions, whether in the United States, or throughout the world, where The Walt Disney Company has refused to film or engage in production for reasons other than those based on economic/costs.

The Walt Disney Company’s website states, “We believe social responsibility is a long-term investment that serves to strengthen our operations and competitiveness in the marketplace, enhance risk management, attract and engage talented employees, and maintain our reputation.” We seek to fully understand how you implement this commitment in the activities you undertake in China.

We look forward to your prompt and detailed responses to these requests.




Marco Rubio
U.S. Senator



Robert Menendez
U.S. Senator



Tom Cotton
U.S. Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley
U.S. Senator



Ben Sasse
U.S. Senator



Thom Tillis
U.S. Senator

Sincerely,



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Christopher H. Smith
Member of Congress



Tom Malinowski
Member of Congress



Mike Gallagher
Member of Congress



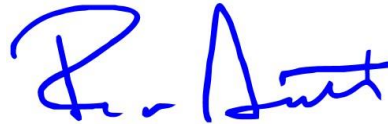
Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress



Liz Cheney
Member of Congress



Marsha Blackburn
U.S. Senator



Rick Scott
U.S. Senator



Ted Cruz
U.S. Senator



Steve Daines
U.S. Senator



James Lankford
U.S. Senator



Pat Toomey
U.S. Senator



Kelly Loeffler
U.S. Senator